

## Long Beach Ten Year Plan Summary Guidelines

There are thousands of pages of great research on homelessness out there, but who has the time to read it all? Nobody! So we are asking that everyone take one article home per month, read it, and present the key points to your subcommittee the next time you meet.

Please use the following guide if you like, or if you prefer, simply highlight the key points of the article with a marker. Feel free to disseminate the information in whatever way suits you. Our goal is simply to start synthesizing all of the research out there so we can focus on generating goals and recommendations and begin filling out your subcommittee's matrix.

Name : Lee Howard for Beth Stochl  
Title of Article: "Home Works - Solving Family Homelessness thru Permanent Supportive Housing"  
Date: December 2005

1. Please describe the goal of the project/program found in the article/report?

**This article was published by Corp. for Supportive Housing (CSH), the first national effort to extend to homeless and at risk families with special needs the promising model of permanent supportive housing – a successful, cost-effective combination of affordable housing w/services that help people live more stable, productive lives. The article "aims to strengthen existing projects & increase the successful development of permanent supportive housing for homeless families w/special needs across the country." It can also be a useful resource for projects exploring conversion from transitional housing to permanent supportive housing for families.**

**The 7 chapters in the article include: (1) Conversion; (2) Tenant Engagement; (3) Children and Youth; (4) Harm Reduction; (5) Leadership & Community Building; (6) Domestic Violence; and (7) Building a Team. The chapters are followed by profiles of 4 models: (a) a community house; (b) homeless Children's Network/Family Supportive Housing Collaboration; (c) Housing Opportunities for Women; and (d) Collaborative Village.**

2. What were the key points?

**Each of the 7 topics includes the pros/cons of the issues: e.g.**

**(1) Conversion:** Does it fit your organization's mission?; analyses of factors involved, i.e., funding, legal, community services, facility, housing functions, & operations; and a timeframe for completion.

**(2) Tenant Engagement:** Describes how to make a voluntary services approach work well in supportive housing.

- (3) **Children & Youth:** Describes how to deal w/problems of children in such families and how to design effective services for children and youth.
- (4) **Harm Reduction:** Describes harm reduction as an approach to increasing both access to housing and housing stability and retention, and details implementation steps to such a program.
- (5) **Leadership & Community Building:** Describes the interrelated themes of building community and fostering tenant leadership. Both grow out of effective strategies to engage tenants in voluntary services.
- (6) **Domestic Violence:** Describes how an effective program is highly sensitive to the issue, skilled at encouraging disclosure & providing support, engaged in building communities that value health, and proactive in promoting individual empowerment, health & economic self-sufficiency. Property management must also be committed to policies that encourage disclosure & prevent re-victimizing.
- (7) **Building a Team:** Presents guidelines for staffing & equipping an effective family supportive housing project. It stresses the advantages of a "team" approach.

3. Is this a proposal or an existing project/program? If the project/program was completed, what were the outcomes? If it is a proposal, what are the expected outcomes?

**This is neither. It's a valuable "how to" analysis of how to provide housing for the homeless. This article describes key issues in the provision of supportive housing; provides guidelines; describes implementation strategies; discusses funding sources and costs of operation; and gives very brief examples of 4 models of such housing..**

4. Who was involved and how did they meet the project goals?  
**As indicated above, this article did not describe an actual project/s. The focus is presenting issues, guidelines, etc., not an actual project.**

5. How was it funded? How much did it cost? **See 4 above.**

6. Any pertinent statistics found? **There were various percentages articulated throughout the article, e.g., P. 28 – 45% of homeless children do not attend school on a regular basis; 66% are more likely to have at least one major mental disability that interferes w/daily activities, etc.**

7. Any unique approaches to ending homelessness identified? **No**

8. Any questions raised by this plan? **No. Homelessness is a difficult, widespread and growing, expensive, and heartbreaking national issue. This article provides valuable guidelines, suggestions, perspectives on the issue.**

9. Potential goals to include in the matrix?
- a) **There's lots of material available to help those organizations that are committed to improving the lot of homeless individuals and families. Don't reinvent the wheel.**

- b) Be in it for the long haul – it won't be easy, quick, inexpensive, or always gratifying, or even always safe.
- c) There's funds available – Federal, State, private foundations. Check into available resources and have competent and knowledgeable staff to complete the necessary applications for funds.

**Note:** Although the report itself is confined to academic descriptions of what should be done to implement a viable permanent supportive housing program for the homeless, at its conclusion it does present four examples (profiles) of such projects that have, to some extent, incorporated the article's guidelines, i.e., Canon Barcus Community House; Homeless Children's Network/Family Supportive Housing Collaboration; Housing Opportunities for Women; and Collaborative Village. The profiles were from 1 to 4 pages long. However, there were no specifics provided about funding sources, project costs or staff commitments. Section 8, Shelter Plus Care, CDBG and other subsidies are cited for ongoing assistance after program implementation.

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Also, if you come across interesting articles on your own, we encourage you to share this information with your subcommittee as well.

Please keep in mind, this is not being graded! We value your input in whatever form it comes. Thank you again for your time, energy, and dedication to ending homelessness.